Appl. No. : 10/749,355 Confirmation No. 1169

Applicant : John David Larry

Filed: December 31, 2003

TC/A.U. : 2837

Examiner: Kimberly R. Lockett

Docket No. : 3063-02

Customer No.: 37,101

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria VA 22313-1450 Via Fax at 571-273-8300

Sir:

Responsive to the first Official Action mailed March 24, 2005, Applicant submits the following Remarks/Arguments:

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

The examiner has rejected claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Godin et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,670,536.) Applicant respectfully disagrees. The Godin et al. patent functions quite differently from Applicants' claimed subject matter.

In her rejection of claims 1-4, Ms. Lockett states that Godin et al. (Godin,) discloses the use of a musical instrument case comprising a top portion for covering the headstock and tuning keys of the instrument, a body portion for covering the strings and neck of the instrument with one or more detachable straps to secure the